GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Transport, Roads & Buildings Department – Filing a defamation suit on the Managing Director, Eenadu News Paper for publishing the adverse, libelous, scandalous, untruthful, unfounded, per se defamatory, derogatory news published in Eenadu Main News Paper on 07.03.2023 under the caption "Diesel Mafia" – Sanction of State Government to launch Prosecution under section 199 (4) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and to file defamation suit – Accorded - Orders – Issued.

TRANSPORT, ROADS & BUILDINGS (PTD-II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt. No.151 Dated:01/06/2023.

Read the following:-

1. News Item published in Eenadu Main News Paper, dated 07.03.2023. under the caption "Diesel Mafia".
2. From Sri Y. Nagi Reddy, State Public Prosecutor, A.P. High Court, Amaravati, Legal Notice dated 15.03.2023 issued to the Editor and Others of Eenadu Telugu News Paper.
3. G.O.Rt. No.938, GA(Poll.D) Dept., dated 20.02.2007.
4. G.O.Rt. No.2430, GA(I&PR)Dept., dated 30.10.2019.

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ORDER:-

1) In the first read above, a News item which are adverse, libelous, untruthful, scandalous, unfounded, per se defamatory, derogatory news, published in Eenadu Main News Paper on 07.03.2023 under the caption "Diesel Mafia".

2) In the reference second read above, the State Public Prosecutor, A.P. High Court, Amaravati, has issued Legal Notices to the Editor and Others of Eenadu Telugu News Paper who are responsible for publishing Defamatory and Derogatory news which is devoid of truth, with a request to publish a rejoinder along with an unconditional apology for the publication filed on 07.03.2023 in reference to the per se defamatory caption "DIESEL MAFIA" with a proper size and conspicuous display of the apology or else, otherwise steps will be taken as per law and the ex-parte denied.

3) Government have examined the matter with reference to the orders issued in the G.Os. 3rd and 4th read above, wherein powers have been delegated to the Secretaries of respective departments to issue rejoinders, file complaints and lodge appropriate cases, under sub section (4) of section 199 Cr.P.C., if need be, through Public Prosecutor against defamatory news items published/ telecast/ posted in print/ electronic/ social media pertaining to their respective Departments after following due procedure.

4) Government after careful examination of the matter and all the facts and circumstances of the case consider that the said news items containing the allegations under the captions publishing the adverse, libelous, scandalous, untruthful, unfounded, per se defamatory, derogatory news published in Eenadu

[P.TO.]

Main News Paper on 07.03.2023 under the caption "Diesel Mafia" appear to be defamatory in nature and likely to cause harm to the reputation of the Government and also mar the prestige and dignity of the Government and it is necessary to launch prosecution against the Chief Editor, Managing Director and others of Eenadu Telugu Daily News Paper in a Hon'ble Jurisdictional Court.

5) Government in exercise of the powers conferred under sub-section (4) of section 199 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (Central Act No. 2 of 1974) hereby, accord sanction to launch prosecution under sub-section (2) of the said section and to file defamation suit against the Chief Editor/ Managing Director and others of Eenadu Telugu Daily News Paper regarding libelous, scandalous, untruthful, unfounded, per se defamatory, derogatory news item published in Eenadu Telugu Daily News Paper dated 07.03.2023 under the caption "Diesel Mafia" which is highly defamatory in nature.

6) The State Public Prosecutor, High Court of Andhra Pradesh shall take immediate further action in the matter, accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

PRADYUMNA P.S.
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The State Public Prosecutor, High Court of Andhra Pradesh.
Copy to:-
The Commissioner, Public Transport Department & EO Managing Director,
APSRTC, A.P., Vijayawada.
The Law (H) Department.
SF/SC.

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER